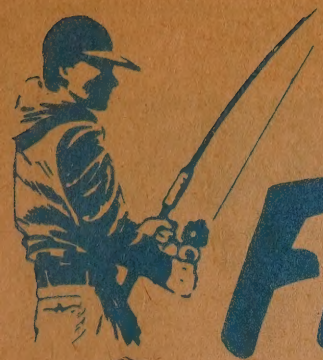

The Long Island FISHERMAN

25¢

APRIL 4th, 1974, ISSUE No.12

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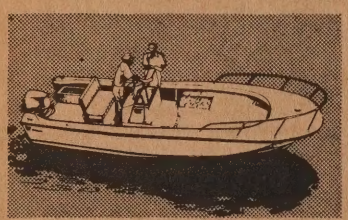

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CLUB NEWS

ROCK AND ROLL ROD & GUN CLUB

On April 20, 1974, the RRRGC of Bronx will hold its eighteenth Annual Dance at V.F.W. Post #957 on 80 W. Kingsbridge Road, Bronx. The new slate of officers will be introduced at that time:

President—Charles G. Bolar
Vice President—Donald Murphy
Treasurer—Phil Kenny
Recording Sec'y.—Donald Murphy
Commodore—Al Masocchi
Sergeant-at-Arms—Jim Barnes

Also to be presented will be the 1973 Individual Fishing Award to Edward Geiss.

HIGH HILL STRIPER CLUB SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

The High Hill Striper Club is seeking up to eight new members who have a love for surf fishing—expertise is not a requisite. Interested fishermen call Pete O'Connor of Bellmore at FR 9-4653.

FREEPORT ATLANTIS ANGLERS SEEK NEW MEMBERS

The Atlantis Anglers of Freeport are seeking a few hard-core fishermen who enjoy competition to fill their ranks. Call Jack Darragh at (516) RO 6-4161.

COMPASS DEMONSTRATION FREE FOR CLUBS

Any Club interested in a free lecture and demonstration on the magnetic compass may contact Jens Jacobs, Compass Adjuster — (516) 757-7169. It's interesting and highly informative to every boat owner and boat owner to be.

BALDWIN ROD & GUN CLUB SPRING FLOUNDER DERBY

Baldwin Rod & Gun Club will kick off its fishing season this year with a flounder charter at Greenport, N.Y.

The fishing chairman announced that April 27th and 28th will be the Spring Flounder Derby dates.

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE ONLY WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Volume 9, No.12 April 4th, 1974

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ABOUT THE COVER: Top left, Cliff Brown of Manhattan with 10 flounder up to 2 lbs. he caught out of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station; Bottom left, Ed Thompson and Frank Widirsky with 45 flounder 1-2¼ pounds they took at South Ferry in the Peconics on mussel; Top right, Eugene Mayer hefts the 42 lb. cod taken on March 21st aboard the Peconic Queen II at Montauk; Bottom right, Dave Pigott with 23 flounder ¾-1¼ lbs. taken on North Shore.

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two (2) weeks in February, by the L.I.F. Publishing Corp., L.I.F. Building, 8 West 7th St., P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729. Telephone (516) 667-6633. Second class postage is paid at Deer Park. 25 cents a copy; 1 year, 50 issues, $9.00; 2 years, 100 issues, $17.00; 3 years, 150 issues, $25.00. Back issues are sold for 50 cents a copy. Photographs and written contributions are welcomed. Unsolicited contributions must be accompanied by a written request and a stamped, self-addressed envelope. All consideration will be given these requests, however, no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both the old and the new address. Allow two weeks for change.

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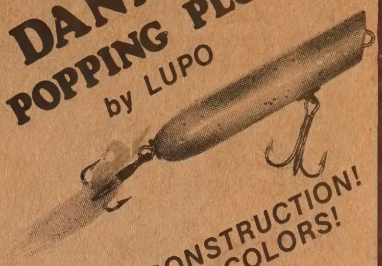

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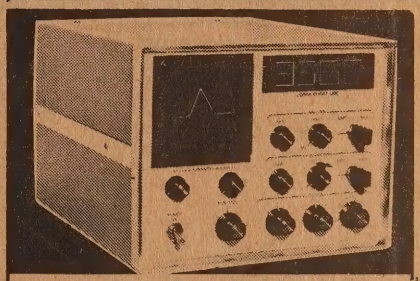

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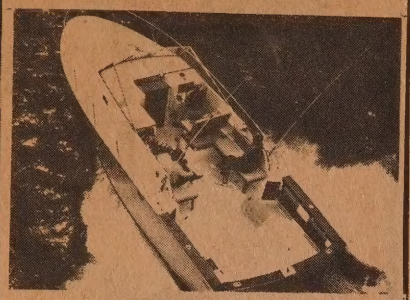

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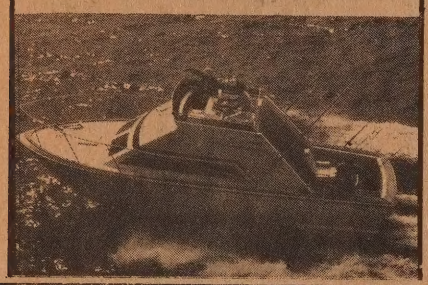

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Chum Lines

BUNKER BILLS REQUIRE SUPPORT FROM FISHERMEN

NOW IS THE TIME TO IMPLORE YOUR READERS TO WRITE THEIR SENATORS AND ASSEMBLYMEN TO SUPPORT THE BUNKER BILLS NOW IN THE LEGISLATURE! LONG ISLAND FISHERMEN SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN PUSHING THIS VITAL LEGISLATION! REFER TO THE FOLLOWING BILLS WHEN YOU WRITE TO YOUR LEGISLATOR: SENATE 7245; ASSEMBLY 8562.—Martin Mc Mahon, Carmel, N.Y.

YAY! FOR THE COAST GUARD

Here is a copy of a mailgram I had sent to the U.S. Coast Guard in Washington, D.C.

I thought it was a good idea; maybe your customers would be interested in doing the same. Giving the U.S.C.G. a little credit might be another way of getting our conservation efforts across in Washington. It can't hurt.

United States Coast Guard
Headquarters
400 7th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20590
To the United States Coast Guard Commander in charge:

My sincere compliments to Captain William B. Allen skipper of the Coast Guard cutter Unimak in his arrest for the foreign trawler Limosa. With our declining fisheries along our coast conservation is needed badly more now than ever. If this country expects to have fisheries for the future fisherman and generations to come a 200 mile limit is needed now. As for Captain Allen and the U.S. Coast Guard—a job well done sincerely—

Captain Richard Kessinger, fishing boat Starstream, Freeport, New York.

The editor must apologize for not getting this into print much, much earlier. The only excuse—a poor one—is that the communique was lost in a pile of over a hundred chum lines letters that also require fancy footwork and fast (?) action.

Captains Allen and Kessinger deserve the thanks of fellow fishermen throughout the country; Captain Allen for making the arrest, and Captain Kessinger for taking the time and effort to say "thank you for a job well done."

We certainly share the hope that our elected officials, somewhere in this land, will take the necessary legislative steps to protect OUR offshore fisheries to the 200-mile limit, and not allow them to be destroyed as have been so many of our non-replenishable resources.

This is another appeal for the readers to write to state and federal governments and give their views. Surely the continued existence of our once-abundant, now declining gifts from nature are worth at least as much as maintaining relations with countries that would rape this country to death—if they had the chance, something we seem to be giving them in full measure.

Damn this nonsense, government officials! What's so terribly wrong with helping your fellow Americans, for a change? Not just a few—all of us!

LONG ISLAND SOUND FISHING FISHING BOOK

You once advertised a book about fishing in Long Island Sound. I'm interested. Where do I obtain a copy?—Stanley I. Furie, Sunnyside, N.Y.

The book you are referring to is "Fishing Western Long Island Sound" by Ted Keatley and Fred Luks. Explained and discussed in great detail is the Sound area—from Eaton's Neck, Long Island and Norwalk, Connecticut, west to New York City. The book may be purchased for $1.95 from Vernon Plains Publishers, Room 3B6, 2 Overlook Road, White Plains, N.Y. 10605.

SURF BAG WANTED

I live in Queens and do a lot of surf fishing, but have run into a minor problem. I've found surf bags for small lures, none for the larger ones. Can you help? How about a surf bag made of plastic?—William Herlihy, Forest Hills, N.Y.

We're not particularly fond of plastic on the beach, for a number of reasons. Most plastic products sold to fisherman are rather hard and would shatter during a normal fall. We wouldn't care to ruin a pair of waders, or a hip, by having a sliver of plastic puncture our

hides. In addition, any fittings used to secure plastic tend to structurally weaken it, especially is this true when dealing with thin sheets of the stuff. Perhaps a bag made of soft, flexible plastic would solve the above two problems, but we know of none being manufactured. Stick to canvas with flexible plastic or aluminum inserts and brass fittings.

Contact Shoreline Products, P.O. Box 233, East Northport, N.Y. 11731. Their surf bag will fit your requirements

LAUNCHING RAMPS ON LONG ISLAND

Where can I get a list of launching ramps on Long Island—both Nassau and Suffolk counties?—R.M. Katz, Paramus, N.J.

We receive many inquiries from boat-toting anglers who are looking for a place to drop their hulls. Send one dollar, along with your request, to Nassau County Fish & Game Association, P.O. Box 245, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11570. Their list includes both public and private ramps in Nassau and Suffolk, and is periodically up-dated.

CAR POOL
Reader Service

RIDERS WANTED: Leaving Brooklyn for Montauk and other spots on L.I. for all types fishing. Call Peter Tsambarlis at (212) SO 8-2732.

CAR WANTED: 14-year old boy needs ride anywhere. Melville. Call Richard Becker at (516) 643-6685.

RIDERS WANTED: Leaving daily after 1 P.M. and Sat. + Sun. all day to anywhere. Canarsie, Brooklyn. Call Paul Marder at (212) 696-1558.

CAR WANTED: Sat. + Sun. and Passover vacation. Knows good spot for bucktailing bass. Long Beach. Call Jason Colby (516) 889-3641.

CAR WANTED: Needs ride on weekends for surf + boat. Commack. Call Tommy Reale at (516) 543-8818.

CAR WANTED: Sundays to anywhere for anything. Syosset. Call Len Isaac at (516) 921-7583.

RIDERS WANTED: Wed., Thurs. and Fri. for skiff fishing from Freeport to Shinnecock Bays. Has own 9½ h.p. outboard. Call Art Dulik at (212) 424-5053 Woodside.

CAR WANTED: Needs ride any time for flounder fishing anywhere. Commack. Call Walter King at (516) 864-7870.

CAR WANTED: Mon., Wed., Sun. Leaving from Ridgewood, Queens to anywhere on L.I. Call Frank Pascale at (212) 382-5321.

CAR WANTED: Anytime, anywhere to surf and jetty. Brooklyn. Call Joey Angeri, Jr. at (212) 331-9051.

CAR WANTED: Sundays and holidays for anything, anywhere, particularly the surf. Ozone Park. Call Bob Hendershot at (212) 843-8274.

CAR WANTED: Anytime, anywhere, any type. East Islip. Call Rich Santiago at (516) 277-4170.

RIDERS WANTED: Has car and 18 h.p. outboard; leaving Bronx, Pelham area two days in mid-week for skiff fishing on Eastern Long Island. Call Al Feinman at (212) 828-3026.

RIDERS WANTED: Leaving the Bronx on Saturdays to all points up to Montauk for surf and boat fishing. Write to Ted Zaer, 1595 Unionport Rd., Bronx, N.Y. 10462.

CAR WANTED: Lives in Brooklyn, needs ride on weekends to Captree and other areas for flounder. Call Sal Terranova at (212) CL 9-2539.

CAR WANTED: Needs a ride on weekends or Monday for mostly surf fishing. Bronx. Call Jerry Waldman at (212) 365-4679.

RIDER WANTED: Leaving mid-town Manhattan on Saturdays. Surf and pier fishing at Jones, Cedar, Pt. Jeff and Mount Sinai beaches. Call Eligio Mendez at (212) EN 2-8700 Ext. 711

CAR WANTED: Four fishermen from downtown Manhattan need ride on weekends to Long Island or New Jersey fishing areas. Call Bill Lew at (212) 349-4669.

RIDERS WANTED: Leaving Kew Gardens on weekends and occasional weekdays for flounder fishing at E. Moriches. Call Joel Gelfand at (212) 263-1274

RIDERS WANTED: Has car, no license. Any time, anywhere, any place. Call Joe Mazzara at 281-8392

CAR WANTED: Needs a ride for Sunday fishing anywhere. L.I. City. Call Steve McMahon at (212) 392-1571

RIDERS WANTED: Leaving from College Point almost daily. Bass fishing at Hempstead Harbor. Call Henry Pellechia at (212) 445-3256

CAR WANTED: Barry Goodman is 12-years old and needs a ride to go flounder fishing. He lives in Westbury and is available any Saturday. Give Barry a call at (516) ED 3-2905

CAR WANTED: Former licensed Skipper needs a ride to "anywhere there's fish"—except cod. Lives in mid-town Manhattan and is available almost any day. Call Phil Morini at (212) TR 3-1007 evenings.

CAR WANTED: Leaving Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, anytime anywhere. Call Huey Long at (212) 680-9230.

CAR WANTED: Lives in Mineola and needs ride to any salt water fishing. Call Tim Leviness at (516) 248-2276.

CAR WANTED: Lives in Northport, needs ride on Sundays to anywhere on L.I. Call Peter Wight at (516) 757-8975.

RIDERS WANTED: Leaving from West Bronx, Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat. & Sun. to where-the-fish-are. Call Richard Kincaid (212) 731-6139.

CAR WANTED: Retiree needs ride any time anywhere. Jamaica, Queens. Call Hector Anstett at (212) 526-0929.

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MORE UNDERWATER HUNTING

by John Fennimore

To go hunting, you obviously need a gun. Moreover you are not going to use an elephant gun for hunting rabbits, nor a pellet gun for hunting bear.

The same theory applies to spear fishing. Of course, there are exceptions to the theory, but a big spear gun is for big fish and a smaller gun is for small fish: the question is — which spear gun is the correct one?

There are two common categories of spear guns; the first is pneumatic guns, and the second is rubber guns. The pneumatic gun is a balanced gun, usually with a center grip. It is easily aimed and easy to swim with, due to a low water drag. The larger pneumatic guns have a range of about thirty feet.

This type of gun is liked by many, but not by me! The operating principles of the gun are as follows:

A long tube is placed within a chamber. Inside the tube we find an air tight piston, and at the end of the tube there is a shock absorber. The chamber is pumped up with compressed air. The spear shaft is physically forced into the end of the tube, then placed against the piston. There the piston gets locked in.

When a person wants to fire the gun, the piston is released and air pressure forces the spear shaft and the piston out. The piston then hits the shock absorber, which stops it from flying out with the spear shaft.

The disadvantages of this system are numerous. First of all, the spear shaft is forced into the gun by means of a hand grip which is fitted on the spear head; this grip is usually made of plastic. If the grip should become worn, or you should slip before the piston is locked in, the chances are excellent that you will have a spear shaft through your hand. Also, you must bring the hand grip loader with you when you dive, and therefore it is easily lost.

Other bad features are the price of the gun and the extremely high prices of replacement parts. This type of gun also requires a good amount of maintenance: it must be washed, oiled and pumped up. Failure to do so will result in a high repair bill. The gun is filled with compressed air, so the gun must be properly sealed. It is very hard to reseal this gun if taken apart, especially if the washers are worn.

The main advantage of the gun is supposed to be accuracy, but I have found that the gun makes a "Knocking" sound (piston hitting the shock absorber) which alerts the fish.

The gun I like is the two band rubber gun. The gun is maintenance free, and quite accurate. The only drawback is that on some models the gun has to undergo a "mellowing out" period.

When a gun is used for the first time the trigger may be difficult to press and firing is therefore difficult, due to the roughness and sharp edges on the firing mechanism. After firing the gun about twenty five times, the firing mechanism will become smooth and firing will become easier.

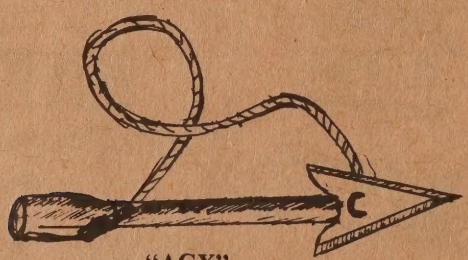
On your first dive with the gun, try it out in shallow water by going for something fast like snappers. Fire the gun repeatedly, but remember to be careful and stay away from other divers. Unsporting? No, because it is extremely doubtful that you shall be able to hit one of those fast babies.

Okay, you have a good gun, but that's not good enough! For larger fish you'll need an even better spear head. The best head I have found for bass is the AGX detachable type. This head looks like an arrow head, but is thin and sharp like a knife.

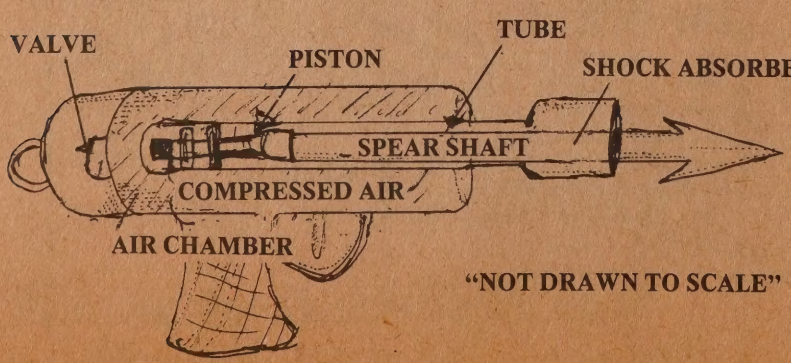
It is fixed on a galvanized steel rod and fastened not by a rope, but by a stainless steel cable. This is very important because a rope will rip when shot into shells or barnacles. The AGX head will cut through a fish like butter and gives a positive hold, but has one big flaw: if shot into a rock it will break into tiny pieces.

So, if you plan to hunt around rocks, a sharp, two barb detachable is your best bet, but don't try a body shot. It is far better to stick with the gills.

Now let's get to the really important items, such as where to go, and what to do. Try the jetties. They are easy to find, and at certain tidal stages the bigger



"AGX"



"NOT DRAWN TO SCALE"

PNEUMATIC GUN

fish go there. When diving a jetty, (like Shinnecock's east jetty), the hot spots will usually be near the end.

For example, stripers traveling in schools will prefer to use their natural coloration as protection. This means that the sandy stretches a short distance away from the jetty will help to conceal the silver bodied bass. I've noticed that smaller bass don't seem to display their stripes as vividly when they travel in schools: they appear ghost-like, and are fast moving. These fish generally run about six pounds and less. The bigger bass are loners, but they show their true colors — stripes and all.

Not being as fast as a fish, the diver can try a number of things, all involving "sneakiness". If you plan to go snorkel diving, take advantage of poor top water conditions. Sometimes the first three feet or so of water are cloudy with silt. Hide in these layers and pounce upon the fish with a quick surface dive. This momentarily "confuses" the fish.

During that second, you must make your shot. If the water is clear, and you are skin diving, move around. Don't let the fish know where you are! In fact, it is a good idea to leave the water for a few minutes and come back later, rested and with conditions quieted down.

If you are using scuba then you really have to be sneaky, because the bubbles will alert the fish to your presence. Hide behind rocks, submerged pilings or anything that will make you harder to spot.

Look around — a couple of eight pound weakfish just went by! Not wanting to alert them, you move from rock to rock, carefully avoiding erratic motions. You're about twelve feet away. The current is against you, and now you are directly behind one.

He has seen you and is moving away, but don't give up. A weakfish swimming against a strong current uses his body as well as his fins to swim. The weak will travel in an "S" shaped motion. Aim your gun at one side of the fish, and hold your breath. When his head turns to that side, fire! An almost impossible shot has becomes a perfect gill shot.

When you spear a good sized fish, he will swim with the spear shaft. If he is really big, you'll just have to take up water skiing, whether you want to or not. But, seriously, a diver can only expect to get one or two nice sized fish because of the difficulty of the sport. Which means that potential "hogs" are weeded out. And that's kind of nice when you think about it!

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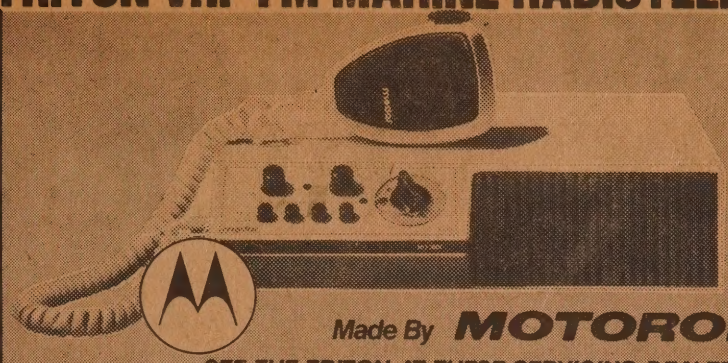

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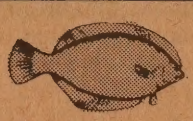

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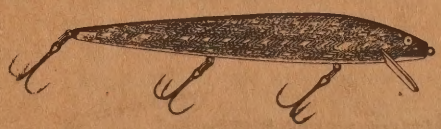

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The same heavy seas that deposited these sea clams can also break loose chunks of sludge.

The Blackbottom Is Not A Dance!

by Bill Bornscheur

If only for a moment, ponder this. Imagine pouring thick maple syrup on your breakfast pancakes...and continue pouring for more than 45 years! I know it sounds incredible but, if this absurd idea actually happened, in just a few short weeks the gooey stuff would be dribbling down the stoop; oozing toward the sidewalk and the street. After a period of years it would certainly become a real mess. The paper boy would be having a hell of a time getting about on his bike and automobiles, provided we could afford the gas, would be sliding all over the place. In 45 years—WOW! The town's population might look like the animals trapped in the La Brea tar pits, doomed to an agonizing, slow death.

Not far off Long Island's south shore, out from Long Beach and Atlantic Beach, a much more disasterous pouring has taken place—and continues even as you read this. For over 45 years the thick sludge, from sewer plants serving about 13 million people, has been dumped in an area 25 miles square at the rate of 5.8 million cubic yards a year! A huge amount, to be sure, but this astounding figure could easily TRIPLE in the next few years.

The dumping grounds are located in the area known as the New York Bight. The sea floor under this chunk of ocean is like a gently rolling, sandy plain; the circulation of the water currents moving above it are at best only partially understood. The bottom can best be described as black paste. This total area is commonly referred to as the "dead sea."

Recently, Professor William H. Harris, professor of geochemistry and chemical oceanography at Brooklyn College stirred the sludge controversy by stating he had located sludge as close as ONE HALF MILE off Atlantic Beach. Harris determined the presence of sludge and high concentration of heavy metals (found in sewage wastes.) These levels are high in relation to natural levels for the metals.

To quote Newsday, "Nassau County has found, according to federal sources, high coliform counts in the waters off Atlantic Beach. Coliform are harmless bacteria that grow in the human intestine; but they are used by scientists as indicators of sewage waste. County health department officials would not release the figures or confirm them."

Many people scoff at Prof. Harris' findings. One of these is Assistant Water Resources Commissioner Charles Samowitz. Samowitz said, and I quote from the Daily News, "We see nothing to indicate that the dumping site 10 miles off Long Island's south shore is moving." Samowitz should read what is before me this moment, the summary FACT sheet from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA.) Under responsibility of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, NOAA has important responsibilities for research and monitoring the effects of ocean dumping. NOAA flatly states, "An appreciable amount of sludge material extends beyond the sludge dumping site in ALL directions, but primarily to the north. The amphitheater-like head of the valley near the Long Island shore is an area of natural deposition." It continues: "Although chemical analyses of the MESA samples (Marine Ecosystems Analysis Program,) collected in 1973, are still underway, some results to date are indicative of sludge contamination 3.5 miles off Long Island. Some evidence even suggests admixtures of sludge in bottom sediments as close as two miles from the beach." Samowitz, openly admitting that sludge does destroy bottom life, stumbles on to say another jewel regarding the dump site:

"The city strongly recommends not to change the area. Any change would have to be measured in DECADES."

Still digging through Newsday, I found another choice tidbit of information you may be interested in, this time concerning the EPA. "Lower echelon agency scientists, who do not wish their names used, say that one of the most promising areas for the new dumping ground would be 30 nautical miles south of Fire Island Inlet. The agency dumped sludge 14 miles south of Fire Island when it was looking for a new site several years ago. That sludge washed up on the island's beaches." Brain power at work!

Each day the barges and tankers head out to sea to dump their black gook, smothering the sea life on the bottom. But just what is sludge? Sludge comes from sewage that has been fed into a digestor tank where the pH, temperature and oxygen are checked. Oxygen is pumped in and the pH is altered with lime to allow bacteria to break down organics, thereby using up some phosphates, nitrates and nutrients. The sewage then settles into effluent and sludge.

Sewage sludge has high concentrations of organic carbon and heavy metals such as lead, copper, zinc, chromium, cadmium, and nickel. Waters above this sewage sludge are typically low in dissolved oxygen concentration due to degradation of the organic matter. To date, coliform concentrations have been within acceptable safety limits, but no testing for the presence of viruses has been initiated. Regardless of cost, tests for polio, meningitis and hepatitis should be administered.

During the winter months a "flushing action" tends to move sludge southward and seaward. In the summer months the sludge bed expands as less sludge is washed away and oxidized. Also, the ecosystem utilizes less. During this time sludge accumulates and is worked into bottom sediments.

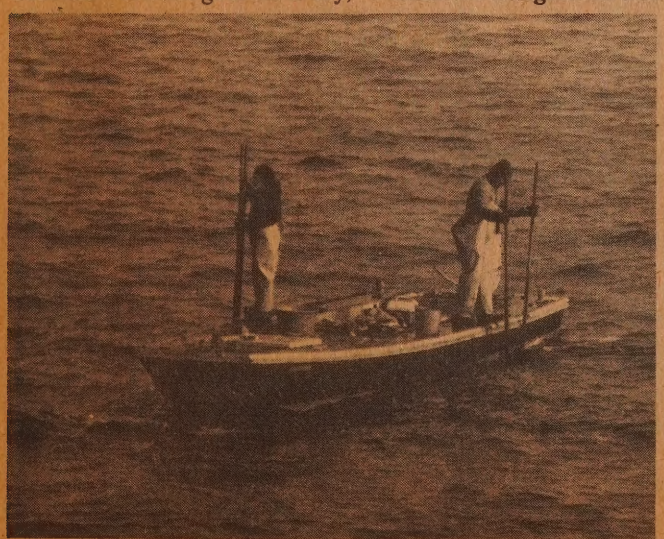
Realizing ocean dumping as one of the foremost environmental issues in the New York Bight, NOAA made this statement from its findings on the MESA project: "Sewage sludge introduced into coastal waters represents a potential hazard to various elements of the marine ecosystem, including valuable fisheries resources, and to man. Scientists findings to date DO support the public concern about sludge dumping and indicate the urgency and importance of determining more accurately the extent of sludge contamination, the oceanic factors indluencing sludge movement and the extent to which sludge is impacting or jeopardizing marine life and beaches." NOAA goes on to say, "Premature designation and use of an alternative sewage sump site, without an understanding sufficient to predict the associated consequences, would probably degrade the marine environment in yet another area, and might provide no greater assurance that the public health be protected."

This statement should bring the potential dangers of ocean dumping clearly into focus. Dumping simply is not the answer and will only tend to compound the trouble already created by the lack of foresight and concern. Government officials vigorously proclaim that the danger of contamination along the beaches is not imminent. Richard T. Dewling, the surveillance and analysis director for EPA's Region 2 admitted that the present yearly volume of sludge being dumped may swell to 18 million cubic yards in a few years, but that ocean dumping for the next 5 to 10 years will be the SOUNDEST ENVIRONMENTAL ALTERNATIVE for disposing of sludge in the metropolitan area. Mayor Fred Lager of Long Beach seems to disagree, and stated before the hearing on dumping application permits that, "I don't think we can wait four or five years. There seems to be no question the present dump site is spilling over."

The long term effect of sludge may cost our delicate marine environment dearly, but in basic dollars and cents sludge is expensive. Right now it's costing New York City over one million dollars a year to operate the various sludge carriers; to move the dump site out to 100 miles (a retarded idea) would boost the cost to the 5 million mark. But why dump in the first place? Sewage sludge can be treated to yield an excellent compost-mulch. The stuff is being sold in Michigan right now!—And recent studies have shown that other products, such as bricks, are feasible.

EPA has granted permission to dump sewage wastes for another year, but realizes the public is hot on its tail for quick and positive measures to solve this problem rather than postpone it. Men like Professor Harris got the ball rolling, but to beat this black ooze it's going to be the guys with the fishing rods or divers with SCUBA gear, and especially the commercial fishermen and the party boat people, who will determine the outcome. These are the people who see the danger and are most familiar with it.

This time Man's thoughtless intervention on nature's delicate marine world has created a real mess, one we have to clean up in the near future. Like the TV commercial says; it's not nice to fool mother nature, let alone smother it with black ooze.



How long will this kind of action, as well as...

...this kind, last when sludge invades Long Island's shores?

West Harbor for Early Bass

by Ron Onorato

For a long time, the lake-like qualities of this quiet body of water have deceived many people. With Centre Island Reef and its famed catches of big striped bass, who would believe that right across the street is a spot that produces large stripers, and in April, no less. Unknown to many people, this little cove is one of the earlier producers of striped bass on the north shore of Long Island.

West Harbor is a small body of water located in the Village of Bayville, and is part of Oyster Bay Harbor, which is rather unique in itself. It is one of the few North Shore salt marsh complexes that still yields a considerable amount of hard shell clams that are clean enough to eat. There is a rather sizable clam digging industry that still dredges a living from the clean waters of the bay.

Of more importance, perhaps, is the minor run of alewives that occurs in the back marshes, near the fresh water outflow from Beaver Lake. These small members of the herring family often draw sizable stripers to the vicinity, where they are then consumed by the bass. The rest of the area consists chiefly of marshes and sod banks. Turtles abound in the area, and marine life of all sorts is rich and plentiful.

It is the richness of this area that attracts quite a few winter-over bass of various sizes. Instead of migrating, these fish remain to feed before they retire to their state of hibernation in the winter. The warmth of March and April stirs these fish out of their semi-comatose state, and they begin to feed on the marine life that is present.

Anytime during or after the first week in April, you can expect to have fish in West Harbor. West Harbor is rather easy to find. Once you are in the village of Bayville, stay on the main road until you can proceed no farther. Before Memorial Day you can park along the roadside anywhere you like. Parking restrictions are enforced from Memorial Day, until about Labor Day in September. On the northerly side of the road is Long Island Sound and Centre Island Reef. Directly across the street is Oyster Bay and West Harbor.

Ron Onorato flips a small plug into the quiet waters of West Harbor.

Through the month of April, concentrate your efforts on this part of the water, and tend to leave the Sound side alone until the beginning of May. The fish usually feed in West Harbor through April, then, as the waters warm and the mackerel show up in May, most of the fish leave the harbor and move out into the Sound. They are joined later on in May by the Hudson River fish and other migrators. Some fish remain in West Harbor and Oyster Bay throughout the summer.

This is one of the few spots that fishermen have not smothered with worms. Although the fish are rather sluggish, they will strike artificial lures readily. More fishermen use lures rather than the time-honored practice of bottom fishing with worms.

You need not make exceptionally long casts, and, since you will be using fairly small lures, reasonably light tackle can be used. I like the 7½-foot Daiwa spinning rod matched with the Penn 710 reel loaded with 12 pound line. This light-medium action outfit will handle the light lures (½ to 1 ounce) rather well, and will be able to tackle some of those 20-pounders that often come out of these waters. It also allows good sport to be had with the 7 to 10-pound schoolies that are frequently taken here.

Any sort of outfit that can be classified as either light or light-medium will suffice. Rod length will vary from 7 to 8 feet. Leave the big stuff home for a later date. Try to keep the strength of the monofilament between 10 to 15 pounds. The heavier line will allow you to pull free from the reeds and weeds in the event that you snag your lure on them.

Lures to be used in West Harbor should be kept on the small side. The one that seems to get the most play is the Rebel minnow, floating type,with either black or blue back. These lures should range in size from 4½ to 5½ inches. If the surface is rippled by the wind, you can try the Rebel sinker type lure.

The small Alou elver is another favorite of the West Harbor clan. All colors are productive here. Other lures that you should have in your bag are small, yellow or white bucktails in the ½

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to 1-ounce range. The ¾-ounce Hopkins Shorty, with a tuft of bucktail at the end, looks like a good bet too.

You should try casting over the entire area as you move toward the left. You will notice a sign that says "End of Town Beach, Private Beach Beyond." When you reach this point, you will no longer be able to walk on the beach. As long as you stay in the water, you are not trespassing. Keep casting as you continue wading to the left. Keep walking quietly until you hit a fish, or until you have reached the south side of West Harbor.

This area is primarily a high water area. The best time to fish here is when the tide is incoming. About halfway through the incoming tide is a good time to begin fishing. Fish through the incoming and the first two hours of the ebb. After that, you can quit. Try to work the top of the tide for the best results.

Dawn and dusk are the best times to hit this area, although fish may be taken at an time of the day. If you can coincide the tide with either dawn or dusk, your chances for success are vastly improved. Night time fishing produces a few fish.

A mild, northerly wind or southerly wind seems not to affect the fishing to any extent. If the wind is rather substantial, from either north, east, or south, the fishing slacks off. A strong west wind doesn't seem to hinder the fishing to any great extent. If the water looks murky or cloudy, go home and wait until the water settles down again.

West Harbor is not the only spot where you can try casting for bass in late April-early May. The famous Bayville Bridge and vicinity is worth a try. You have a deep channel running through here, and the bass wait for the current to take food through. On the southwest side of the bridge, and on the northeast side, there are sandy banks where you can try casting. If you are intent on worm fishing, try right off the bridge itself. Since the current is rather strong, try not to fish here when the peak water velocities are present. You can use a basic bottom rig with either a blood or sand worm.

The rewards of fishing in this area do not lie in the fact that you may or may not have caught fish. The beauty of this area at dawn and dusk is most exhilarating. At times like this, the real meaning of fishing becomes evident. Take advantage of this area while you still have the chance to.

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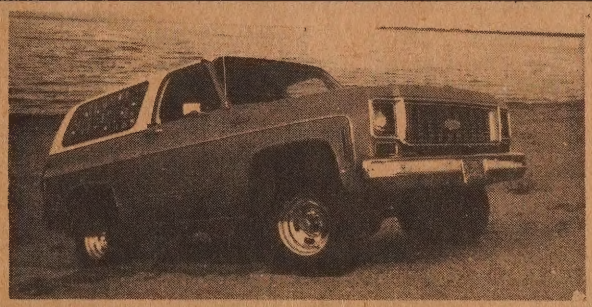

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·SOUTHAVEN PARK·

by Don Vetter

One late September day last year, I stood in contemplative silence beside the little dam at the south end of Hard's Lake. The early morning mist was dissolving beneath the rising sun like a half-forgotten dream. Somewhere overhead, the lonesome honking of a flight of southbound wild geese evoked a plethora of bittersweet memories as the distant sound echoed through the corridors of my mind. The early calm gave way to a gentle breeze which turned the heretofore still water into a shimmering mass of wavelets, lapping softly against the dam's wings.

Amid the play of light and shadow the ripples cast on the thick, early fall vegetation beneath the clear water, I perceived the form of a big brook trout, vermiculations, dorsal and adipose fins clearly defined on his broad back as he glided effortlessly toward the deeper water at the base of the dam and was lost to my view. It was a sight to break anyone's reverie and set them looking to their tackle.

The Suffolk County Park at Southaven may be reached by taking the Sunrise Highway (route 27) to exit 54N, Yaphank Avenue, then following Horseblock Road eastward one mile to the park entrance. Fishing in the park requires you to hold a New York State Fishing License, which must be presented at the security office together with a $1.00 parkland use fee. Believe me, it is a buck well spent, for Southaven is a shining example of a properly managed park, unlike its north shore counterpart, Blydenburg. Rowboats are available for rent at the lake and the fishing is subject to some special regulations over and above the normal Conservation Department rules.

The season runs from April 1 to September 30 and, while the use of bait is allowed in the lower lake and pond, it is fly casting only in the upper lake and stream. An 8-inch size limit applies on trout, and three per day is the bag limit. The park is open from sunrise to sunset and, although open to use only during the open season for trout, trout are far from the only species of fish to vie for the angler's attention.

A total of 800 brook trout and 800 rainbow trout were stocked in the stream in 1973, while 2500 brookies and 2500 rainbows went into the lake and pond during the same period. Aside from the annual stockings, there is a holdover population of brown trout which often provides the angler, wise in the ways of this most wary of genus *SALMO*, an opportunity to take a really trophy-sized trout. Other fish available include largemouth bass, bluegills, pumpkinseeds yellow perch and brown bullheads.

The stream, which is in fact Carmans River, is, together with the upper lake, unique in that it is the only flies-only trout water on Long Island. Other than the fact that its silt bottom precludes downstream wading and heavy brush makes back casts difficult in some spots, both problems endemic to almost all of the Island's streams, it presents no special problems to the angler. Notwithstanding, it can be a real challenge and, to an old fly addict like myself, its secrets and potential make it well worthy of a separate article. I will therefore explore the stream in depth at a later date, and concentrate on the lake and pond in this piece.

Hard's lake has a surface area of 42 acres and a maximum depth of 6 feet. The entire park was once a private hunting and fishing preserve known as the Suffolk Lodge Game Preserve, Kenneth B. Hard, proprietor. When taken over by the State of New York and first opened to the general angling public, the regulations were considerably more stringent than they are today. The size limit for trout was somewhat larger, flies only (as now) was the rule in the upper lake and stream and flies or lures were allowed in the lower lake and pond; bait fishing of any kind was forbidden on any of the park's waters.

The first season or two after the lake became public domain produced a far larger average size of trout than is the case

The wing-dam at the southeat end of Hard's Lake is the prime hotspot.

Bass are found in the little, snag-infested pond which lies just east of the dam.

today. Whether the relaxation of regulations in regard to the use of bait were responsible for this state of affairs, or simple attrition of the population of older trout through the vastly increased rod pressure did the job is a moot point, though I am inclined to attribute it to the latter cause.

Though I prefer the fly rod, I am by no means a purist and have used bait to good effect in the lake. Except in the early days of the park's opening, lures have not proven very effective on the trout, perhaps because they are open to too close an inspection in the usually crystal clear waters, and mature trout quickly become excessively selective when it comes to spoons and spinners under such conditions. Fly casting or bait fishing seems to be the general rule for good action these days, with hardware getting but little attention except in the case of the smaller, less sophisticated trout.

Flies are at their best in the late spring (May through mid to late June) in Hard's Lake, though some good action on dry flies may occur late in the day, even in mid-summer when aquatic weed growth precludes the use of wets or nymphs, if you stick to such patterns as Ginger Quill, Quill Gordon, Dark Hendrickson or Dark Cahill in sizes 14 and 16. A standard trout outfit with a 7-½ or 8 foot fly rod and 6 weight floating double taper line (DT6F) will serve well over-all in both the lake and the pond, though some may prefer an even lighter rig. Leaders should be no less than 9 foot and tapered to a 4x or lighter tippet in most cases.

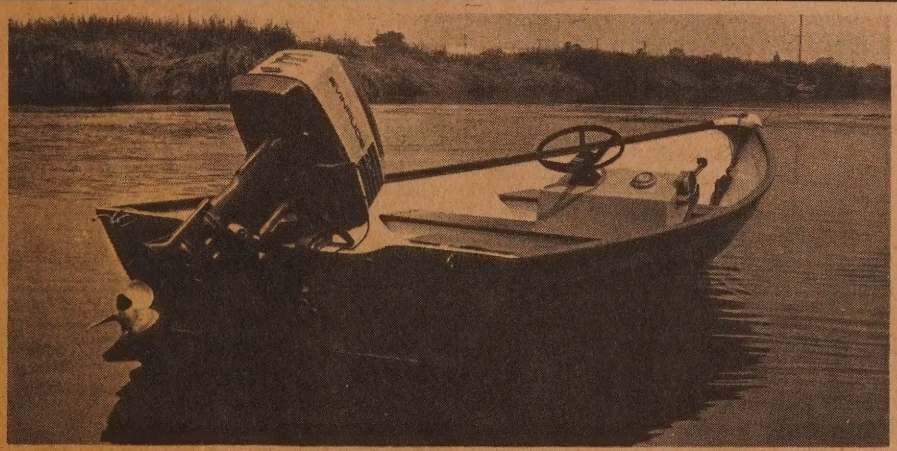
Among the wet flies, Blue Dun, Coachman, Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear and Black Gnat are good patterns; Black Creeper, Tellico and Leadwing Coachman are effective nymphs. Sizes should be rather large in the early spring, and become smaller as the season progresses. A deep, slow retrieve is effective early, and a quicker, short strip retrieve nearer the surface works best later in the year.

The best way to fish the pond, which you will see on your left as you enter the park, is to wade out from the small island and cast either to the north shoreline or to near the small sandbar on the south side. If you see signs of trout rising, so much the better. Aside from trout, this pond contains plenty of big bluegills and a population of yellow perch. It is hard to pinpoint productive areas in the big lake, as those anglers who choose to rent a rowboat may find action almost anywhere. No such problem exists for the shore-based fisherman, since the area around the little wing dam at the southeast end of the lake is by far the best place to fish, particularly early and late in the season.

In the moving, rather deep water at the dam, bait gets the nod over flies most of the time. Though many bait fishermen swear by worms, either the big nightcrawlers or the smaller, common garden variety, I prefer saltwater killies of about an inch and a half in length here. Tackle to use is largely a matter of personal choice, and almost any light freshwater spinning outfit will serve. Since the water is relatively free of obstructions here, and the shoreline outside the dam wings is ideal for beaching big trout, I employ my ultra-light outfit with 2-pound test mono and fish the lip-hooked killies, unweighted, at the dam.

The method is to cast out a sufficient distance to allow the killie to work fairly deep as the current carries it toward the dam. Take up slack as the bait approaches you, and be sure to allow it to proceed right up to the base of the dam, as it is a favorite hold for some of the very largest trout. Keep a sharp eye out for any suspicious pauses in the line's progress which might indicate a pick up, but give the trout sufficient time to

(Continued on page 15.)



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Beach Chair Bass

by Capt. Zachary Grossman

You're sitting in a beach chair, bundled up against the chill air of a typical morning in early April. The sweet smell of burning drift wood plays with your nostrils as you close your eyes and smile at feeling the warm glow that begins to soothe your frozen face. The sun has finally risen high enough for its rays to penetrate the morning crispness, and with this new found comfort you begin to doze....

Suddenly! the sound of a ringing bell crashes through your dream, causing you to leap out of your chair as if struck by a bolt of lightning. Your subconscious mind knows that the bell signals a strike by a hungry striped bass. Before your brain has cleared of cobwebs, you reach for the bucking rod in the sand spike and your reflexes allow you to set the hook in time. The sound of the working drag and the pulsing of the rod in your hands bring you around the full awareness as the bass takes off on his first powerful run.

If that sounds like a good way to start an April morning, keep reading and I'll tell you where, when, and how to do it. The spring run always starts off with the bass feeding on the bottom where there is plenty of slow moving food. In this way the bass can put on some weight after the semi-dormancy of winter without expending too much energy. At this time of year they stay near sand bars, mud flats, mussel beds, marshes and other sources of easy-to-catch prey. The moving tides supply a living buffet of worms, grass shrimp, crabs, and other nourishing creatures. As the days lengthen and the waters get warmer, more and more bass arrive from the south and from the Hudson. The first fish may show at Cedar Beach or at Great Kills, Staten Island, or any beach, mud bank, or marsh inbetween.

When I hear of fish being caught in the Sandy Hook area of New Jersey I head for the beaches of Staten Island. They are only a short swim apart and have always been productive in early season bassing. The waters are shallow and warm quickly, and there is very little wave action as they are broken up by the big bars that lie far offshore. The weak currents that sweep these beaches make for easy fishing.

Before I owned a car I would come to this spot, excited by the prospect of catching a bass while other friends contented themselves with flounder fishing. I would board the Lexington Ave. Local in the Bronx at about 4:00 A.M. and ride to South Ferry where I would take the ride to the Island. I would then take the Staten Island Rapid Transit to Great Kills, then get a taxicab out to the beach. I always instructed the driver to have a cab dispatched to pick me up at a predetermined time (predetermined by the stage of the tide, that is.) In those days the taxi fare was $1.25 each way. Each one way trip took about three hours, thus giving me plenty of time to do my homework. I carried a huge knapsack containing terminal tackle, reels, spikes, food, drink, bait, and enough homework to last for six hours. In those days drift wood was good enough to sit on.

The only difference now is the addition of a car and a chair. The preferred bait is the sandworm fished either on the bottom or near it. I use a fish-finder rig on a light two-handed spinning stick loaded with 12 pound test line. A two ounce pyramid sinker is usually sufficient in these light currents and a float on the leader will help if crabs become a problem.

The bars in this area are well out of reach and have no effect on the feeding patterns of the bass. Once inside them they fan out to the relatively shallow waters of the beach in search of food. A long cast will not necessarily produce better results than a shorter one, therefore it is a good idea to set up two rods, one bait out far and one in closer.

If you find it difficult to cast a sandworm rigged for bass without breaking off the tail try this trick. Place the worm in some sand from the area between the high and low tide lines. The sand should be moist for good results. After a few seconds remove it from the sand and put it on your hook. You'll notice that the worm has gotten very hard. This is due to its natural reaction to the wet sand by tightening up its muscles in preparation for digging in. Once on the hook,

John Gorrebeeck asleep by his rod. Notice small bell attached to the gathering guide.

John wakes up fast when bell signals a pick-up.

place the worm in the sand again and you will find it easier to cast without it breaking. As soon as I get to the beach I remove all seaweed that comes in the bait box and place the worms into an empty milk container that I bring along for the purpose. The end is sealed shut. Three cuts with a knife and I've got a lid, that runs the length of the container, that can be opened and closed. I fill it with the intertidal sand to keep the worms hard and healthy.

After casting out the baits I place the rods into sand spikes and attach a bell to each rod. This kind of fishing requires a lot of patience and one tends to snooze if the action is slow. That's why I use the bells. Once the action starts it usually keeps up at a good pace until the tide stops and the buffet table is no longer moving. When this happens I break out a third rod and try slow moving lures on the bottom. I've had good results with the small Hopkins Shorty, which I rig with three yellow feathers, and with the yellow Lupo shrimp. Both have to be fished very slowly, right on the bottom.

If the first word of bass comes from the South shore of Long Island I head for Cedar or Malibu and use much the same tactics. The currents are much stronger and, if combined with an onshore wind, they will leave your rig high and dry in no time. The fish are about the same at all these spots in early April—lazy. They average under ten pounds with an occasional fifteen or twenty pounder thrown in.

If you would like to be sitting on a beach, smelling the crisp sea air with a hint of burning drift wood in it, feeling the rising sun warm your face as you dream beautiful dreams, you'll like beach chair bass. Don't worry about your rods, your reflexes will hook the fish. Just lean back in your chair and relax, let the sun do its work, your eyelids are getting heavier, heavier, heavier....

SOUTHAVEN PARK

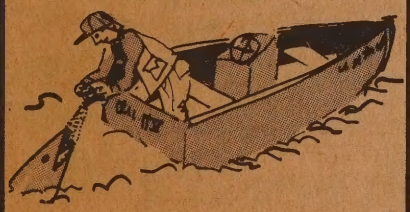
(Continued from page 13.)

fool with the bait before attempting to set the hook. Many times your killie will attract the attention of a bass; the dam can provide a good mixed bag of largemouths and trout, especially late in the year.

For those whose primary target is bass, the little pond choked with half-drowned timber, which lies just a bit to the east of the dam, provides the best action and the largest fish. This is no place to go light, due to the size of the bass present and the snag-infested nature of the water. A plastic worm, fished with a relatively heavy spin or plug casting rod and substantial line, will fill the bill here, though large killies fished with a weedless hook and similar tackle will also produce in this little backwater pond.

Getting to the dam and the aforementioned pond can be quite an experience afoot late in the year when the briars, which line the southern shore of the lake, have reached their maximum growth. The little footpath seems all but obliterated in places, and you inch your way along, pressed against the wire boundary fence, ducking down to thread your way through the tenacious brambles. The trip is often well worth the effort, however, as many a time I have made the return journey with the additional encumbrance of a well-filled stringer.

Chum those SHARKS



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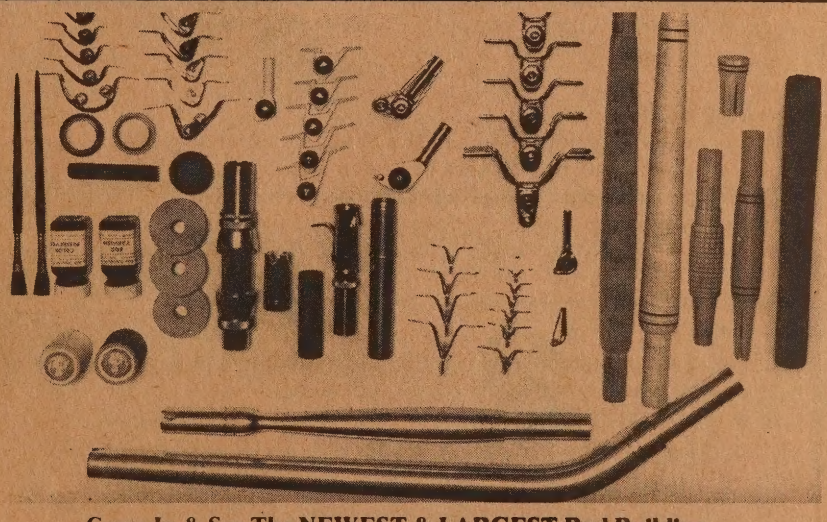

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WEAKFISH PROTECTION

BY FRED GUARDINEER

GILLNETTING IN GREAT SOUTH BAY IS NOW BANNED IN ISLIP TOWN WATERS DURING APRIL AND MAY. LICENSING RESTRICTIONS WILL GOVERN GILLNETTERS THE REST OF THE YEAR.

BEST GILLNETS ARE MADE IN JAPAN AND "SNUCK" IN BY AIR LINE HOSTESSES.

DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?
WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE LEFT THE DOCK!
NO MORE SLAUGHTER OF SPAWNING WEAKFISH IN GREAT SOUTH BAY. BY ORDER OF ISLIP TOWN BOARD

HATS OFF TO THE EAST ISLIP ANGLERS AND OAKDALE SPORTSMENS CLUB WHO INITIATED THIS LEGISLATION ACCORDING TO *"SAVE OUR STRIPERS, INC."* OF MASSAPEQUA PARK.

A 10 LB. 7 OZ. WEAKFISH ON 12 LB. TEST LINE, CAUGHT OCT. 7, 1973 IN FIRE ISLAND INLET WAS A NEW WORLD RECORD FOR HOWARD SETKOWSKY OF BABYLON. TWO OTHER WORLD RECORD WEAKS WERE ALSO TAKEN LOCALLY LAST YEAR.

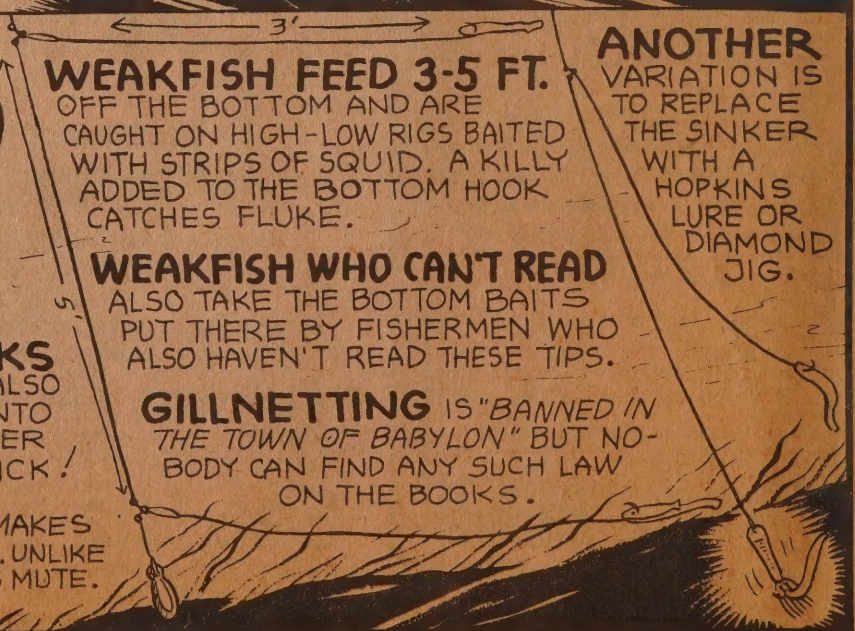
MORE ANGLERS SEEK WEAKFISH - A MEMBER OF THE DRUM FAMILY - THAN ANY OTHER EAST COAST SPORT FISH.

16 INCH MINIMUM LENGTH IS THE UNOFFICIAL SIZE LIMIT PLACED ON WEAKFISH BY SPORTFISHERMEN AND SPORTFISHING CLUBS.

PLASTIC SHRIMP JIGS WORKED VERY WELL ON WEAKFISH LAST SEASON.

WEAKS WILL ALSO COME INTO A BUNKER CHUM SLICK!

IF THE WEAKFISH YOU CATCH MAKES A CROAKING NOISE, IT IS A MALE. UNLIKE MOST DRUMS, THE FEMALE WEAK IS MUTE.



WEAKFISH FEED 3-5 FT. OFF THE BOTTOM AND ARE CAUGHT ON HIGH-LOW RIGS BAITED WITH STRIPS OF SQUID. A KILLY ADDED TO THE BOTTOM HOOK CATCHES FLUKE.

WEAKFISH WHO CAN'T READ ALSO TAKE THE BOTTOM BAITS PUT THERE BY FISHERMEN WHO ALSO HAVEN'T READ THESE TIPS.

GILLNETTING IS *"BANNED IN THE TOWN OF BABYLON"* BUT NOBODY CAN FIND ANY SUCH LAW ON THE BOOKS.

ANOTHER VARIATION IS TO REPLACE THE SINKER WITH A HOPKINS LURE OR DIAMOND JIG.

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Vigilant sailed the **Triton II** on Thursday with nine men and came home with 115 fish. One cod weighed in at 25 pounds while the rest were between five and 10 pounds.

The Sunday after the storm paid off handsomely for the **Marlin III.** Captain Rade fished Block Island. The fares averaged 10 to 12 fish per man of red cod. This red cod is also called spring cod, and Capt. Rade said that it is good now and will get better.

There are plenty of cod as well as occasional blackfish being taken on board the **Viking Star.** The run to Block Island is short and productive.

Les Behan, skipper on the **Peconic Queen II.** has been fishing the waters between Block Island and Montauk Point. The crowds have been small but everyone gets to bring home enough fish.

Called **Gone Fishing Marina** for a rowboat report and Ronnie told about one rental that went out to the Pocket-book and could not find it and went instead to Great Eastern. Ziggy Newman of Hicksville hit a bonanza of cod. He caught 24 fish whose total weight was over 200 pounds. He caught quite a few of these as double headers. Ronnie also said that there was flounder in the bay for those who don't want to go outside.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand at the **Promised Land Fishing Station** says the flounders are in Nepogue Harbor just waiting for some fisherman to catch them. He has just the right bait for them.

SHINNECOCK

The **Betty W** said the ridiculous weather that we had over the weekend made for unspectacular fishing on Sunday.

The Shinnecock canal has attracted plenty of shore-bound fishermen. Fishing from the banks of the canal has been productive. Prior to the weekend the Green Lawn was the best bet for the boat fishermen. One boat had a 20 gallon can full of fish on Thursday, who caught them in Shinnecock Bay.

HAMPTON BAYS

Tony's Fishing Station said during the week his boats were fishing from bouy #10 to #17. Sand or blood worms seem to produce equally well.

MORICHES BAY

Patricia Cole of **Moriches Bait & Tackle** reports a lot of flounders on the north side of bouy 17. The best bait is worms and mussel chum. Flounders range from one half to one pound and larger.

Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station said there is good flounder in Moriches Bay. A hot spot this past week was bouy 23 as attested to by a catch of 90 flounder. Again worms and mussels along with chumming produced the better catches.

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MASTIC BEACH

Loads of flounder, reports Ron Keenan of **Keenan's Fishing Station,** roughly 100 per boat, in the 1—1¼ lb. class. Bloods and mussel chum, then go man go.

WEST SAYVILLE

Dennis of **South Bay Fishing Station** said the one day out of the weekend that they sent boats was phenomenal. On Sunday, Mike Andrysicke, Frank and "Moonsaler" all from the Transit Authority fished just off of Green Point, the Heckscher flats and north of bouy 29. They went out late and came back with 269 flounder by actual count. The biggest was a fat two pounds. The majority ran ¾ to one pound.

CAPTREE

Mrs. Litwin said that the **Capt. Ben Litwin** gave flounders to everyone they could. The flounders are plentiful around the Heckscher flats according to Capt. Ben Litwin.

The **Capt. Richie** had very good fishing on Friday and Sunday according to Mrs. Westerlind. She had plenty of fat flounders in her freezer to account for it.

From the Bay Shore Channel to Heckscher the flounders are hitting and biting good, so says Capt.roman of the **Captree Queen.** Every day has been good ones except for the storms on Friday and Saturday.

Speedy V has fished West Sayville with continous success this past week. On Sunday the catches ran from 15 to 25 per man. During the week catches were over 25 per man.

Capt. Carl Bauer of the **Capt. Whittaker** had one fare who had 48 flounders on Sunday and no one had less than 20. The pool flounder was around two pounds.

Capt. Pete Novellino of the Northport trailered charter boat **Jennie Three,** had a 4 man charter out, and took 125 flounder at Heckshire State Park. Pete fished due North of buoy 4. Bloodworms, sandworms and clam for bait, and ground up clam for chum. Fish averaged ¾ lb. Note that Pete takes split charters, a service not available everywhere.

BABYLON

The **Babylon Sports Center** reports the kids have been running in all week long and buying bait and catching flounder off the dock. Four or five fish from the dock is about par while the larger fish and catches are out in the bay.

LINDENHURST

The Venetian Shores in Lindenhurst is doing decently well with flounder, as well as Copiague Beach, according to **Duke's Tackle Shop.** The best bet is fishing in a boat at Heckscher with mussels, worms and red dyed clams.

AMITYVILLE

Jonas Bait & Tackle reports good flounder fishing from the Copiague beach, Lindenhurst, the State Channel and the Amityville Cut. Mussel chum and bloodworms are the best bet. Also dyed clams seem to work well.

SEAFORD

Those customers who have braved the weather have had plenty of fish, according do **Pop's Fishing Station.** The are moving around so your choices are many. According to the wind will depend on where you fish Squaw Island or Four Corners.

Lon Wanser's said they are knocking the flounders dead in the State Channel, Squaw Island, Four Corners and off Massapequa in the deep water. Pier fishermen are catching four, five or six a man.

WANTAGH

Causeway Bait & Tackle reports flounders have been doing good for the past four weeks. The weather has been a deterrent but those who went out did well. Unverified reports of bass feeding on small fish have come in, but no reports of any bass catches.

MERRICK

The few boats that went out over the weekend did very well, according to **Nick's Fishing Station.** Ned's Creek and Merrick Point produced between 30 to 50 keeping size flounder. Nick's says, about half of the catch are keepers.

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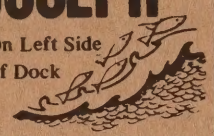

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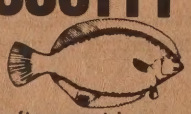

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

Art White of the **A.P. White Bait Shop** tells us of excellent flounder fishing (weather permitting). **Brand "X"** sailed midweek and got average of 35 per man. The **Wilhelric** & **Pooka III** sailed on Sunday and got full bags for their fares. **Pooka IV**, chartering out of Art's docks also brought in a flounder-laiden group on Sunday. All boats are fishing South Ferry and are taken on bloods, mussel and scimmer clam. Art says the gas stations are open every day so "come on out."

SOUTHOLD

Pete of **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** had only one party that insisted on going out on Sunday. This rugged angler got 12 nice size flounder in 1½ hrs., then came back, calling it

a day. Boats out during the week had good catches. Best spots right now are Buoy 12, South Ferry, Buoy 17, Cedar Beach, Reydon Shores, Goose Creek.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports a wipe out this past weekend due to the crummy weather. However, the fish await your bait, fellas.

NORTHPORT

Chainlocker reports flounder off the town dock on sandworms and bloodworms and small stripers at Crab Meadow. **Bowman's Sporting Goods** says that flounders have been taken up to the weekend off the town dock and throughout the harbor and bay on sandworms and clam. Small stripers (return the shorts, please) at Crab Meadow Beach on Kastmasters, Rebels and bucktails.

HUNTINGTON

George Valentine of **Four Winds Tackle Shop** says that when its not blowing or raining, the areas of Duck Island Inlet & Duck Island Harbor are producing excellent catches of ¾-1½ lb. flounder. Sandworm and mussel, with plenty of mussel chum is the ticket. Bass at Crab Meadow on jointed Rebels and small bucktails.

PORT WASHINGTON

Dale at **Morelands Bait & Tackle** reports that flounder are there off the town dock and in Hempstead Harbor on sandworms. Fish are about ½ lb., any tide.

CITY ISLAND

Capt. Pete Anderson of the **North Star** admits Saturday was a loser, but he had a good day Sunday off Oyster Bay. There were 18-24 fish per man, from ¾—1½ lbs.

Apache III from City Island also fished Oyster Bay on Sunday and averaged 20 flatties per man. "Nice

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pan size," said Capt. Dom Cerbone.

Jack's Bait & Tackle tells of flounder catches up to 1½ lbs. in the lagoon off Orchard Beach, using sandworms and mussel chum. Jack has 15' dory skiffs to rent for all "do it yourselfer's."

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Sy Karlin of the Freeport Boatmen Association reported the **Bluefin** went out Saturday and Sunday. Saturday with winds of 40 M.P.H., they caught 60 flounders for four men. They fished Reynolds Channel. On Sunday two boats went out. One the open boat **Capt. Hall** and the **Blue Fin.** Capt. Hall fished east of the Freeport area and came back with a good catch. The Blue Fin fished to the west and hi-hook was for 52 fish by Jerry Hurley of Brooklyn.

The **Dock One** charter boat fished east in the State Channel and Babylon-Bay Shore area. It was a slow pick in the morning but the afternoon was where all the action was. There were very few throwbacks as the fished ranged from three quarters to one and one half pounds.

The **Capt. Al** said they have caught fish every day they went out. The area from Freeport to Gilgo has been the best so far.

The fishing in the local areas was not too hot for the **Aloma II** says Capt. Paul Schmidt. Over the weekend the winds and extra high tides was a poor combination. Fish catches were only five or six a man, but good and fat. Also congratulations are in order for Mrs. and Capt. Schmidt on their new baby daughter which they brought home this weekend.

ISLAND PARK

The **Commodore** has had flounder catches of 20 fish average. The back bouy leads and the oyster beds are the best bet. The main channel at bouy 3 and Reynolds Channel also had some good flounder fishing.

Beckman's Tackle of Lynbrook reports weather considered, there are plenty of flounders around for those who go out. You catch 80 and throw back 40 or 50 of them.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Capt. Fred of the **Amberjack IV** was blown out of his wreck trip this past weekend. This coming Friday, on April 5 at 10 P.M. he will sail for tile fish.

The **Mary** sailed only on Sunday and they had 10 or 12 flounder per man. Better weather will give better fishing.

Vinny at **Salvo's Bait & Tackle** reports flounders being caught off the seawall from 69th St. and Bay Parkway. The fishermen are using worms and green mussels. The dock at the foot of Knopp St. is also another hot spot for flounders using the same bait. Those of you who want something bigger than a flounder should try the area around the Verazano Bridge. A few striped bass have been taken but not weighed. "This is the dawn of the striped bass season." (O.K. Vinny?)

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny at **Santo's Sport Shop** also reports a flounder fisherman picked up a short striped bass while fishing the jetty in Great Kills on Tuesday. The weekend weather made the water very dirty so very few flounders were caught. Better weather should improve the catches.

NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

SANDY HOOK

"The weather is not so good, but the flounder fishing is still holding up," says Joe Julian at **Julian's Sport Shop.** Flounder are being caught from the Highland's bulkhead to the Shrewsbury and Navesink Rivers up to Marine Park in Red Bank.

Mrs. Fossani at **Capt. Charlie's**

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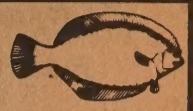
North Shore

Brand X



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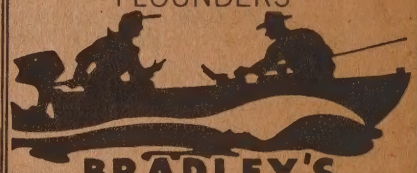

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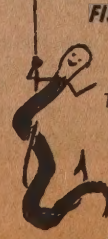

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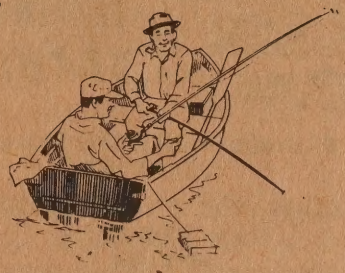

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reported flounder action as holding steady near the ammunition pier. Offshore, whiting and ling are pleasing party boat fans near the Ambrose Tower and at the BA buoy.

SEA BRIGHT

Chris's Landing reported fair flounder fishing during the last week. It would have been much better except for the weatherman who continues to hit us with winds, cold and even snow! Try buoy 13 and the bridges for best results.

CONNECTICUT SCENE with Dick Alley

RYE

Point Tackle tells us of fair flounder fishing off Hen Island, with catches up to 2 pounds.

GREENWICH

Burt Lowengrub—new proprietor—of **Sportsman Den** in Cos-Cob reports several catchen eaten' size flounder have been taken in Greenwich Cove. Some fish are scaling a pound and a half and Burt has plentiful supply of bait to cope with the increasing run.

NORWALK

The Tackle Box classified the flounder run as good with everybody coming back for more bait. The action is going mostly to those fishing from boats.

Vin Mola at **Mola Bros. Bait & Tackle** says that Calf Pasture pier is only fair but the Peach Island channel and the waters around Sprite Island are yielding nice flats.

BRIDGEPORT

Ted Ferrante at **Ted's Bait** reports a few fish are being taken at Penfield Rief.

MILLFORD

Vin Ciulla at the **Sportsman Rendezvous** tells of flounder in the river and along the beaches at the rocks and jetties. He also has reports of mackerel near the center of the sound and out at the rief.

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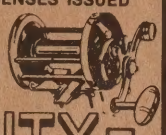

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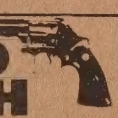

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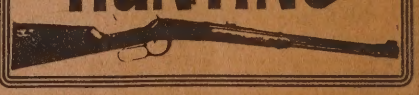

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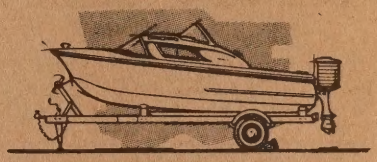

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STARFISH MARINE, 369 E. Main St., E. Islip (516) 581-0881, 7 days a week, open evenings till 8 P.M.

20 ft. WELLCRAFT SPORTFISHERMAN - center console, 135 H.P. Johnson outboard. 48 gal. built-in gas tank. Tandem Axle Galvanized Shoreline Trailer. All 1973 - many extras - $3,700. Phone: (516) 363-7115.

1972 FIBERGLASS TROJAN MARLIN. 25' X 9'4" center console fisherman. 215 H.P. inboard. C/B, VHF radio, Ross dual depth recorder, in water, will demo., fighting chair, outriggers, built-in fish & bait wells. $6500 (212) (212) GR 4-8542.

COMMERCIAL OR SPORTFISHING BOATS: 16'—38'. Built to order professionally in wood or molded fiberglass. Also, for the best in all types of clam boats in stock for immed. delivery. Also, fiberglass bare hulls to 38'. Call: T. JASON CUSTOM BOATS (516) 928-4087.

1966 BOSTON WHALER—16'7" SAKONET, 60h.p. JOHNSON, power-tilt, shipmate tandem trailer (new tires,) rod holders, new nylon bimini top, console cover, compass, C.B. rigged, all excellent cond. Extras $2,250. (516) 378-7900

1971 STARCRAFT 17' Sportfisherman. 55h.p. Evinrude, trailer and all accessories. Fiberglass. $1,100 (516) 473-3631 evenings.

1967 FIBERGLASS THUNDERBIRD 18 ft. Cabin w/head, 95 H.P. Mercury. Six H.P. Johnson. VHF 6 CH Radio. Depth finder, electric bilge pump, full covers, many extras, excellent cond. Phone (212) LI 4-9112.

1970 Boat, motor & trailer, with extras. 18' STARCRAFT, 40 H.P. Evinrude, all electric, Holsclaw C1700 trailer. Used 15 times in 70-71, in moth balls since. Ideal fishing boat. $1800. price firm. Call (516) 475-3783.

1973 BOCCA GRANDE BASS MASTER 26, demo. w/pr. 135 Evinrudes. Fish and bait wells, center console, will accomd. head. $12,100. in the water. Boatworks Yacht Sales. 71 Rowayton Ave., Rowayton, Conn. (203) 866-0882.

28' SUMNERCRAFT SPORTFISHERMAN, Fiberglass, 225 H.P. Chrysler, FWC, 230 hours, full skeg protection, 2.5 MPG at 14 MPH, excellent sea & fishing boat, fully equipped, $4,500. (516) SU 5-5865.

21 ft. CHRISCRAFT Inboard - excellent cond. w/trailer. Ready for water, $400.00 (516) 273-5681.

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1971 19ft. AQUASPORT w/115h.p. Evinrude motor. 1973 Galvanized Shoreline Trailer, Ross Graph depth recorder, Johnson 123 CB, compass, 2 anchors spare prop., bow spray hood, console cover, other extras. Asking $3,100. (516) PI 6-5891 after 5 p.m.

24' SILVERTON, fully equipped, ready-to-go, reasonable (212) 986-0534 (day) (516) 691-2709 (nite)

1970 WINNER VISCOUNT 21ft. Cuddy cabin sleeps 2, 120 H.P. I/O depth finder, compass automatic elec. anchor, head, 4H.P. O/B trolling motor. 1972 trailer w/elec. winch. Extras. Asking $4,800. (516) 481-2294.

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ONE DAY SEMINAR to prepare for the CG exam for Motorboat Operator to take passengers for hire. Only teaching what is on the exam. Saturday, April 27th 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Cost: $40.00. Send $20.00 deposit to Marine Associates, Dept. LI, 130 Grand Avenue, Englewood, N.J. 07631.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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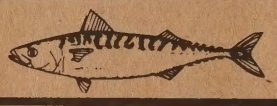

ELECTRONIC BARGAINS, new American made marine radio package including crystals and antenna $249. Raytheon fish recorder, list $329.95 Special: $225. Ask for our bargain list. ALL COMMUNICATIONS (516) 261-5555.

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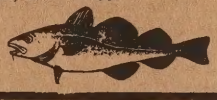

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The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

Thurs.	3:00	**9:35**	3:30	**10:00**
Fri.	3:45	**10:20**	4:15	**10:55**
Sat.	4:30	**11:05**	5:10	**11:30**
Sun.	5:15	**11:55**	5:45	-
Mon.	6:10	**12:25**	6:40	**12:55**
Tues.	7:05	**1:20**	7:30	**1:50**
Weds.	8:05	**2:20**	8:30	**2:45**
Thurs.	9:00	**3:15**	9:25	**3:40**

TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
THURSDAY	6:34	7:02	8:05	8:29	10:32	10:53	10:00	10:23
FRIDAY	7:24	7:48	8:56	9:16	11:22	11:41	10:51	11:11
SATURDAY	8:09	8:32	9:44	10:01		12:08	11:39	11:55
SUNDAY	8:52	9:15	10:30	10:45	12:23	12:51		12:24
MONDAY	9:35	9:56	11:14	11:30	1:01	1:28	12:40	1:09
TUESDAY	10:17	10:38	11:58		1:37	2:05	1:23	1:53
WEDNESDAY	11:01	11:23	12:15	12:47	2:08	2:37	2:08	2:37
THURSDAY	11:47		1:02	1:36	2:42	3:12	2:51	3:25

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
(Inlet,Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0 00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW 1st Qtr. FULL Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

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